

Applicants : Peter Brink et al.  
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claims be examined in this application.

The Examiner has also stated that claims 1, 4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 23, 27, 31 and 35 recite a plurality of patentably distinct sequences: HCN1, HCN2, HCN4, E324A-HCN2, Y331A-HCN2 and Y331A-E324A-HCN2, and requires us to elect one sequence. In response, applicant elects HCN2.

The Examiner also states that the claims are directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: pacemaker current and cardiac rhythm disorder, and requires us to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, 51 is generic. In response, applicant elects pacemaker current.

The Examiner also stated that claims 41-48 are generic to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species comprising: heart, bladder, artery, arteriole, liver, gastrointestinal tract, tumor originating from epithelial tissue and tumor originating from smooth muscle cells, and requires us to elect a single disclosed species, even though this requirement is traversed. In response, applicant elects the heart.

The Examiner also stated that claims 57-62 are generic to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species comprising: inducing current in heart, increasing heart rate, inducing current in the cell, contraction of the cell, shortening the time required to activate cells and changing membrane potential of the cell, and requires us to elect a single disclosed species, even though this requirement is traversed. In response, applicant elects inducing current in heart.

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The Examiner also states that the claims are directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: conduction block, complete atrioventricular block, incomplete atrioventricular block and sinus node dysfunction, and requires us to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, 54 is generic. In response, applicant elects incomplete atrioventricular block.

The Examiner also states that the claims are directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: topical application structure, microinjection and catheterization, and requires applicant to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, 55 is generic. In response, applicant elects microinjection.

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided below.

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Communication. However, if any fee is required, authorization is

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hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,



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